

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 01834 021446Z

45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 012001Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2865

INFO USCINCSO

UNCLAS CARACAS 1834

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGSAC PINT VE

SUBJECT: CALDERA'S LAST PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FEBRUARY 28 PRESIDENT CALDERA HELD 226TH AND LAST (AS PRESIDENT) REGULAR WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE. OCCASION WAS MARKED BY ATTENDANCE OF MANY INVITED GUESTS, INCLUDING JOURNALISTS, WELL-WISHERS, FRIENDS, RELATIVES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. CONFERENCE MARKED END OF AN ERA, SINCE PRESIDENT-ELECT PEREZ HAS STATED HE WILL NOT CONTINUE WEEKLY PRESS MEETINGS. MELLOW NOSTALGIA AND APOLOGIA WERE THE ORDER OF THE DAY, WITH NO POLEMICS OR SURPRISES.

2. CALDERA SAID HE IS IN GOOD HEALTH, FEELS NO "TERRIBLE NEED" TO REST, BUT WILL SPEND MORE TIME WITH FAMILY, FINISH WRITING SOME BOOKS AND WORK IN THE SENATE. HE CLAIMED HE HAS DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE TRANSFER OF POWER TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. HE DISMISSED AD CHARGES THAT COUNTRY HAS BEEN LEFT A MESS AS CAP PREPARES TO TAKE POWER. HE AGAIN SAID THAT HIS INTERNATIONAL POLICYS WAS NOT AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRY AND SPECIFICALLY DENIED ANTI-US ATTITUDE.
MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

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